

The Health Behaviors of South Dakotans 2003

*A Report of the South Dakota
Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System*

South Dakota Department of Health
600 East Capitol Avenue
Pierre, South Dakota 57501

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What's New

For the first time in 2003, the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) was conducted on a regional basis. This additional data required the Department of Health to reformat The Health Behaviors of South Dakotans 2003 publication. This new format provides the reader considerably more data on each indicator. This report includes new demographic data and organizes each of the major indicators from the survey into similar layouts for easier reading. Following are the new areas included in this new format.

Time Trend Analysis – This is included for each indicator whenever possible. This includes a dashed trend line included on a line chart in order to see the trend of the given indicator.

Comprehensive Demographic Table – This includes a standard breakdown of each indicator by age, race, region, household income, education, employment status, and marital status by gender. Data for each of these subpopulations includes a 95 percent confidence interval for the given rate. This inclusion of the confidence interval allows one to identify significant differences between rates.

Regional Data - The demographic tables include regional data for the first time. The regional data are included in an attempt to identify disparities between the geographic areas of the state. A map showing which counties are included in each region is shown in Appendix A. It should be noted that the American Indian counties region includes those counties where at least 50 percent of the population is American Indian.

Further Analysis – A table is included within each section that demonstrates the prevalence of the given indicator by other health behaviors and conditions. For example, within the hypertension section the prevalence of high blood pressure by other areas of the survey including body mass index, physical activity, and diabetes, etc. This table is designed to be another tool used in targeting subpopulations at highest risk.

Preface

The Health Behaviors of South Dakotans 2003 serves as a way to measure health risks of South Dakotans.

The information used to develop the report came from the BRFSS. The South Dakota Department of Health (SDDOH) initiates the BRFSS with the assistance of the Centers for Disease and Control and Prevention (CDC).

The survey consists of questions aimed at tracking and trending prevalence of health behaviors and conditions over time. The report also compares data from this survey to the *Healthy People 2010 National Health Objectives* as well as to the rest of the nation.

The BRFSS is the world's largest telephone survey. The survey is administered to households with individuals of 18 years or older.

The Office of Data, Statistics, and Vital Records edited and compiled data for this publication. This report contains as much information as practical from the survey.

Any questions regarding The Health Behaviors of South Dakotans 2003 should be addressed to:

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